

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 22 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Inorganic polymers have been known to date in tanning as a rule as fillers. According to the opinion described in H. Herfeld: Bibliothek des Leders, Volume 3, Umschau Verlag, Frankfurt, 2nd edition, 1990, page [[227]] 237, inorganic fillers have no tanning effect. These include kaolin, finely divided clay (china clay), colloidal silica, etc. These products are deposited in the loosely structured main parts and preferably in the flesh side. There is very little effect on the grain structure, the buffability is often improved and the plush is shorter.